

## OYD STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS

### INITIATIVE ONE: Safety First

Safety first means that OYD values the safety of the youth placed in our care and the staff that provide services to them.

This includes having a workforce focused on the rehabilitative needs of our youth. We believe that safety is the foundation and prerequisite for treatment. We promote a safe environment for our youth, families, staff and communities.

	Laf.	L.C.	B.R.	Jeff.	Alex.	Thib.	Hammond	S'port	Monroe	Natch.	Total
<b>Community Partnerships</b>	7	1	1	7	0	9	7	4	1	3	40
<b>Assessment</b>	3	9	1	5	1	0	2	3	3	3	30
<b>Staff Training</b>	5	0	7	3	3	13	10	14	4	1	60
<b>Medical/Mental Health</b>	2	2	1	1	0		2	1	0	0	9
<b>Funding</b>	4	0	0	3	1	2	2	3	1	0	16
<b>Family Involvement</b>	2	2	0	0	0	7	2	4	0	0	17
<b>Aftercare/Transition</b>	0	0	0	2	0	1	1	1	0	0	5
<b>Local Services/Regionalization Continuum of Care</b>	11	1	1	5	1	1	3	4	4	4	35
<b>Education</b>	1	0	0	0	0	11	7	1	0	0	20
<b>Safety</b>	0	10	4	11	1	5	16	4	3	8	62
<b>Not Categorized</b>	8	2	5	6	4	11	4	12	10	1	63

**Not categorized examples:** more staff for service providers, integrated services, increase youth accountability, consistent OYD staff with youth, improve communication, smaller staff to youth ratio, develop treatment based family focused programs, youth advocates, mentors, recreational development, place youth with similar problems/issues together

## **Digest Stakeholder Meetings**

### **Initiative One: Safety First**

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### **Community Partnerships**

- Develop and foster relationships with community partners to provide treatment services.
- Increase partnerships with faith based organizations
- Increase communication between state agencies and community providers
- Community involvement
- Develop support community based programs during the summer months where children can gain knowledge, information and support needed to encourage positive behavior and while being provided with a “safe haven” to grow
- Provide more programs to students at an earlier stage in life, to deal with personal issues before it escalates into a bigger problem
- Get students assigned to the alternative school sites by having them give back to the community they disrupted (community service)
- Encourage students to avoid negative behaviors in schools as well as the community
- Contract care provider for specificity
- Bridge gap between OYD & licensing by creating dialogue
- Depopulating secure facilities by building up more community resources/programming
- Community based support for families- crisis intervention
- Churches; community organized family education
- Depopulate!! Develop CB Services for non-secure kids
- Direct funds to community resources, partner with schools, educate at risk youth on safety/justice system, after school programs-safe environments, tutors/mentors, faith based institutions, libraries,
- Build sustainable and productive partnerships with community leaders and organizations for resources for youth
- Outreach to organizations on the list to see how they can contribute
- Shift focus from incarceration to community based rehabilitation programming by change the culture of juvenile prisons
- Address safety through continuous care not just secure care
- Bridge the gap between home, community, school and the juvenile system
- Parish specific programs
- More programs that service “at risk” youth on parish level - mentorship
- Develop and improve partnerships with school systems and law enforcement to provide community policing initiatives within the school system.
- Provide a greater sense of partnership between law enforcement and school districts
- Develop local resources to support seamless programs for adjudicated youth

- Build partnership with courts, welfare and police to provide incentives such as loss of child support/welfare for non-participating parents as well as community support groups for parents who want to spend more quality time and participate in services such as baby-sitting services at reduced rates or free during time when parents are participating
- Senior citizen day; teen center (evenings/week-ends), organize community through rec/park, churches, school system, city, council on aging, etc.
- Develop and foster relationships with community partners to provide restorative justice opportunities for youth
- Develop and foster relationships with community partners to provide prevention treatment and services
- Depopulation by developing community (prevention/specifically mental health) resources
- Provide peer and other mentors for youth

### **Assessment**

- Initial assessment tools
- Develop a secure care classification system that identifies behavioral, educational, family, health and social needs of youth
- Develop a structured classification system that provides comprehensive and holistic strength and needs assessment of each
- Address need to determine risk presented by child to self and others
- Individual evaluations (either on entry to OYD or prior)
- Roving assessments
- Assessment instrument to determine treatment measurements to allow proper placement
- In depth evaluations of youth to determine risk presented by the youth to himself & others.
- Pre and post assessment of youth from when they arrived and left
- Better assessment for offenders' participation in programs
- Appropriate assessment to identify needs
- Develop a comprehensive assessment for behavior specific dorm program
- Assessment tool- report card that has same objective basis
- Track youth through entire system

### **Staff Training**

- Increase communication between OYD staff and families
- Properly trained staff (de-escalation, reduction of use of force)
- Increased training- defensive tactics & weapons
- Continue POST certifications of probation officers, and increase safety mandates or care workers.
- Certifications and training documentation kept on file in each employee's personnel records.
- Review Regulations and SOP for OYD
- Task force to discuss and act on necessary amendment to policy
- Training on issues to mediate, crisis prevention and intervention strategies(T

- State guided training identifying needs on state and local level.
- Create standardized training to state and local agencies
- Having enough guards to keep youth from harming one another/better training for guards (the Missouri way) to deal with youth (where they don't use violence and items such as cigarettes to gain power over the youth instead of working to reform the youth)
- Statewide guided training on best practices
- Training on how to handle children in difficult situations before starting in new job
- Questionnaire for new workers to determine level of comfort before and after starting new job
- Staff support groups
- Diffuse confrontation in state/private facilities
- Expedite training of staff in nonsecure placement and shelter
- Reduction of confrontation with staff and youth
- Uniform standard of education, certified child care personnel
- Better trained staff who are youth oriented
- Unified training for detention and non-secure facilities
- Continue to assess staff and ability to deal with youth
- Bachelor's level employees (or those with more training and appropriate experience) with adequate pay and encouragement to make a career
- Develop a better trained staff. Training specific to mental health, sex offenders, substance abuse disorders, developmental disorders; Comprehensive across the board continuum.
- On-going training of staff
- Train youth and staff members on safety awareness. Example: trust, contraband
- Instituted OYD staff training
- Training for staff in contact programs
- Staff need to have assigned areas of responsibilities
- Staff treat youth with respect
- Treat children like humans, like they were their own
- Implement new staffing and scheduling model
- Increase staff and student relationships by developing trust and respect

### **Medical/Mental Health**

- Secure care mental health treatment
- Decrease health risks in facilities (accountability)
- Medical information needs to be passed on as necessary so as to promote the wellness of the child.
- Provide treatment programs to youth's immediate family member to allow youth to return to healthy environment
- Develop behavioral specific dorm based programs in secure care that meet the specific needs of the youth

### **Funding**

- Identify financial resources
- Close JCY and SCY to free up more money

- Fundraiser involving community
- At least \$35 million (cost of Swanson/Jetson) is appropriated for new facilities and programs
- Combine secure to non-secure funding
- Appropriate funding – less \$ for razor wire & more \$ for family counseling
- Extra money (transfer of funds from larger facilities to smaller community based programs)
- Adequate funding for community based residential programs
- Budget
- Provide transportation for families (increased funding/support)
- Increase prevention funds;
- Incorporate toll-free calling to family members,
- Seek grants by demonstrating community support

### **Family Involvement**

- Increase family involvement
- Offer incentives for participation,
- Offer workshops
- Encourage family involvement
- Allow all family members to visit;
- offer family involvement activities;
- Stronger family ties and therefore you have a sense of well-being for the youth
- Family increased participation
- Bring information to the parents sitting in multi-family group
- Provide functional parenting skills
- allow family members to be part of the decision
- Parent obligations in transition process

### **Aftercare/Transition**

- Increase placement productivity
- Create appropriate plan (i.e. school, GED, vocational training) to determine child's placement
- Enhanced public safety; more youth completing service plan goals
- Revocations for failure to comply with discharge plan
- Outreach, aftercare and on-going support

### **Local Services/Regionalization/Continuum of Care**

- Increase detention bed, shelter home beds, and group homes
- Alternatives to secure care
- Additional day treatment programs
- Increase in home treatment options
- Close JCY, SCY and then develop smaller centers in regions
- Look at risk of closing facilities (secure)
- Keep youth close to home or in the home
- To ensure the seamless continuum of care including the families and community. (JEF)

- Create small regionalized secure centers
- Close Jetson and Swanson and replace them with Missouri style secure care facilities (20 – 40 beds max per facility) within close proximity (less than 1 hour) to their communities to ensure family and community involvement
- To create a resource guide in region as an outreach list/database
- Build new facilities based on Missouri model no facility larger than 60 beds
- Regionalization
- Close JCCY or SCCY in favor of smaller youth friendly facilities in several regions across the state
- To be able to assist youth and family with resources in their area & to meet their needs
- Have meetings by school districts, school teacher conferences
- Use PTA, social gatherings, churches to work with parents
- Develop programming/facilities appropriate for youth as an inner alternative to secure and non-secure care
- Programming somewhere in between secure and non-secure facilities, transitional living, smaller secure setting to address specialized needs of youth

### **Education**

- More skilled personnel in the school systems that can deal with the student on a regular basis.
- School based community policing data
- Increased involvement for school-based officers in discipline
- Remediate interpersonal skills to accommodate a school environment
- Develop and support appropriate programs within the schools in order to foster positive behaviors and provide re-enforcement when goals are met;
- Provide positive role models for students while at school and at home who are adequately trained to help address these needs
- Decrease the number of students expelled and suspended from school system
- Decrease recidivism by students attending alternative school settings
- Better alternative schools- early intervention
- Schools as a place to receive counseling and address life issues, serve as a safe environment, transportation, family involvement
- Create / enrich transition from alternative school settings to public school
- Enforce school rules with a strict approach before sending them to an alternative setting by involving the SRO at an earlier point in time

### **Safety**

- Higher youth safety by developing stronger bonds between youth and caretakers
- Decrease the youth/youth and youth/staff incidents
- Provide all agencies who serve youth with access to NCIC checks to ensure that volunteers are safely screened.
- Develop procedure for addressing in home safety concerns for community based services
- Increased reporting of incidents
- Alter the culture of the facilities to ensure a safe and therapeutic environment (JEF 1) (

- To ensure the right to safety of all the players (youth, workers, security, community)
- To ensure that youth has alternate reporting system other than PZT with an outside ombudsman.
- To ensure youth's safety – reduce violence in facilities
- Increase of awareness of safety issues for youth and staff
- Safety in secure facilities
- Reduce introduction of contraband- cigarettes, money, gambling
- Field officer (PPO) safety:
- Physical searches of each student to ensure safety
- Decrease in technical violations
- Few to no violent incidents with kids close to families
- Provide life skills for safety; swimming lessons
- Decrease in physical altercations, increase in level of function in areas indicated as deficient
- Ensure youth safety and reduce facility violence
- End zero tolerance policies end issuance of disciplinary citations, use of isolation cells and all verbal physical abuse from staff as well as use of shackles and barbed wire
- Cease or dramatically limit use of shackles on kids and remove all razor wire from juvenile prisons
- Measure the awareness of staff and youth council relative to safety.
- Ensure there are no potential weapons accessible to children in our care
- Stricter punishment for guard on youth violence
- PZT allegations- child assumed truth as well as guard
- Develop and construct facility-design for safety, combine constructive activities for youth with meaningful reward system
- Elective in Junior High and Senior High (Health & P.E)
- Curriculum to educate community on safety
- Promote neighborhood awareness of child safety, safe houses, hotline to call (advertise hotline number on local stations, place info in voting stations, PTA meetings, school conferences
- Increase the knowledge of child's past
- Increase preventative safety measures
- Minimize use of DCC workers for violent offenders
- Decrease burnout due to extended one-on-one services
- Allow providers access to information on computers as paperwork is sometimes inadequate and can lead to violence

### **Uncategorized**

- Stop blaming each other – work together to identify problems and solve them
- Prioritize treatment for youth at-risk of being taken out of home
- More staff for service providers
- Integrated services
- Increasing youth accountability
- Implement proven strategies based on research
- Place youth with similar problems together so higher level of care can be provided.
- Use smaller groups with a higher concentration of services.

- Consistent assignments of OYD with youth
- Single page document of checklist of behaviors to court and PO
- Non-OYD advocate who follow youth throughout involvement in the criminal system
- Set timeline to evaluate each youth
- Physical fitness
- Design and appearance of building
- Improve communications systems/response times
- Volunteers
- Video cameras in classrooms
- Accountability for actions
- Improvement in early intervention
- case management
- Smaller staff to student ratio
- More hands-on teaching = attention & better success
- Adequately address the specific needs of the youth in a safe structured solution focused GOAL oriented environment.
- Smaller caseloads
- More responsive to youth and family needs
- Put cap on number of youth in facilities.
- Develop treatment based family focused program
- Appoint youth advocates
- Explain juvenile justice system, appear with them in court, speak on their behalf, guide them toward appropriate programming
- Fewer adjudications/out of home placements; improved school performance
- Increased enrollment in programming
- Create ways for partners to mentor, train, interact with youth before, during, and post-adjudication
- Recreational Development
- System to institute and/or collect available info (OYD generated, school records, court provided)
- Change culture of the prisons move to total rehabilitation
- Make ombudsman independent of OYD, state, and accountable to families, P.O.'s who are pro-child.
- Provide treatment programs to youth immediate family members to allow youth to return to a healthy environment
- To prevent broken children from becoming broken adults
- Try to teach a child to be able to de-escalate by himself
- Develop, foster, support information sharing in order that "at risk" juveniles might receive needed guidance and support to help alter negative behavior
- Increase local access to diversion programs within Lafourche parish
- To improve parents lifestyle to include the child total well-being and gain or maintain custody
- Develop transition plan to handle violence in non-pilot areas
- Juvenile law



